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Twenty-first Season

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WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 1947

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## FASHION SHOW NOTES

The Cape Playhouse will be the scene of two fashion shows on Tuesday, August 19th and 26th, at 4:30 p.m. All proceeds will go to the Personal Parcel Service of the Gertrude Lawrence Branch of the American Theatre Wing War Service, Inc.

The first show will be sponsored by Makanna and the house of tweed and will feature negligees and an exclusive collection from America's most distinguished designers.

August 26th will be devoted to a showing of Esther Dorothy's fabulous fur collection.

Miss Gertrude Lawrence will personally present both shows and will be joined by visiting stars at the Cape Playhouse. The "Hart Girls" will model at both shows.

Tickets for both shows are available at $12 or for one show at $6 tax included. Checks should be made payable to the Gertrude Lawrence Branch and sent directly to Miss Lawrence at the Cape Playhouse, Dennis.

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# The Cape Playhouse

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MICHAEL MINDLIN, JR. . *Press Representative*
GRETCHEN LONG ..... *Executive Secretary*
HELEN JOHNSON ..... *Box Office Treasurer*
ANNE S. ROE ..... *Assistant Treasurer*
ROBERT HORNSTEIN .. *Asst. to Gen. Manager*

### TECHNICAL STAFF

ARTHUR SIRCOM ..... *Stage Director*
EUGENE FITSCH ..... *Scenic Artist*
JEFFREY POTTER ..... *Stage Manager*
MARY T. WALKER .... *Asst. Stage Manager*
BUDDY ROGERS ..... *Master Electrician*
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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

GERTRUDE LAWRENCE (Lady Maria Fitzherbert) first came to the Cape Playhouse in 1939 to try out Samuel Raphaelson's "Skylark". It was during this engagement that she met Richard Aldrich, producer and manager of the Playhouse. After a year on Broadway in "Skylark," Miss Lawrence returned to Dennis to open the season in "Private Lives" and to marry Richard Aldrich. A toast of two continents since she first came to America with Beatrice Lillie and Jack Buchanan in "Charlot's Revue," Gertrude Lawrence had a humble beginning in Clapham, England. Miss Lawrence started as a child dancer in pantomimes in the English provinces, and her first London appearance was as principal dancer and understudy to the star of a revue called "Some." Her star steadily ascended under the aegis of Andre Charlot and after her success in "Charlot's Revue" in this country, she starred in "Oh, Kay!" which the Gershwins wrote for her; then "Candlelight," with Leslie Howard, "Treasure Girl" (another by the Gershwins) and "The International Revue" preceded her enormous triumph, co-starred with the author, in Noel Coward's "Private Lives." After appearing in "Behold, We Live!", Cole Porter's "Nymph Errant" and "The Winding Journey" abroad, Miss Lawrence returned to the States in 1936, again teamed with Noel Coward, and dazzled New York audiences with her comedy range and emotional depth in the series of nine short plays that made up Coward's cycle "Tonight at 8:30." Following "Tonight at 8:30", Miss Lawrence delighted Broadway for two seasons in Rachel Crother's "Susan and God." After her appearance at The Cape Playhouse in "Private Lives," she started an engagement in the fabulous "Lady in the Dark" which she played for 550 performances on Broadway.

(Continued to Page 5)

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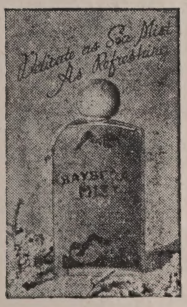
## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 4)

In the Spring and Summer of 1944, under the auspices of ENSA, the British USO, Miss Lawrence headed a party that entertained battle-weary British and American troops in England, the Hebrides, France and Belgium. As a USO entertainer, she entertained troops in Pacific Island bases and appeared in "Blithe Spirit" in the Hawaiian Islands. Miss Lawrence is the first Vice-President of the American Theatre Wing and heads the Gertrude Lawrence Branch of the Wing on Cape Cod. Last year at the Playhouse, Miss Lawrence opened the season as Eliza Doolittle in Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion". She surprised Playhouse audiences later in the season with her unexpected appearance in "Man In Possession" with Gene Raymond. She was billed under her own name, Alexandra Dagmar. She has recently returned from a successful tour in "Pygmalion."

CARL ESMOND (H.R.H. George, Prince of Wales) is making his American stage debut in "The Lady Maria." Born in Vienna, Mr. Esmond studied at the Austrian Conservatory of Dramatic Art and was the youngest leading man ever to appear at the famous Burg Theatre in Vienna, which was financed and sponsored by the state. After three and a half years at the Burg Theatre, Esmond grew impatient and went to Berlin where he appeared in one play and then left for Hamburg City Theatre Repertory Company where he performed in everything from Shakespeare to musical comedy. Esmond then returned to Berlin where he scored a success on the stage and in many motion pictures. When the Nazis rose to power, Mr. Esmond left Germany for England where he made films with Lillian Harvey, Evelyn Laye, Richard Tauber and many others. As a result of his portrayal of Prince Albert in

(Continued to Page 6)

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 5)

the London production of Victoria Regina (Helen Hayes starred in it on Broadway) Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer signed him to a screen contract and he came to this country in 1938. His American screen appearances include featured roles in such pictures as "Dawn Patrol", "Little Men," "Sun Down", "Margin For Error", "Address Unknown," "First Comes Courage" and "Without Love." During the war, Mr. Esmond made many training films for the U. S .Army.

BRAMWELL FLETCHER (Richard Brinsley Sheridan) started his theatrical career 20 years ago at the Stratford-on-Avon Shakesperian Theatre. After appearances in London in such stage successes as "Thunder on the Left," "Cradle Snatchers", and "Devil In The Cheese" which was Frederic March's first vehicle in this country, Mr. Fletcher came to Broadway and the short-lived "Scotland Yard." From Broadway, Fletcher went to Hollywood under the Goldwyn banner and after two years returned to appear in "Red Planet" and then "Ten Minute Alibi." Mr. Fletcher has appeared opposite Katherine Cornell in "The Doctor's Dilemna," with Laurette Taylor in "Outward

(Continued to Page 7)

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 6)

Bound," which he also produced, in Maxwell Anderson's "Storm Operation," "Margin For Error," produced by Richard Aldrich, and with the star of the Cape Playhouse's production of "The Marquise," "Lillian Gish, in "Within The Gates." He has appeared in over 20 motion pictures including "Random Harvest," "White Cargo," "The Immortal Sergeant," and "Svengali." As the lead in the touring company of "Tonight At 8:30," he shares with Noel Coward the distinction of being the actor to play the nine major roles in that cycle of plays.

(Continued to Page 12)

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## THIS WEEK IN PAST SEASONS

"The Lady Maria" marks the sixth engagement of the 1947 season. Here are the Cape Playhouse productions that celebrate anniversaries this week.

1927—MAN OF DESTINY with Michael Strange.

1928—THE SILVER CORD with Robert Montgomery and Laura Hope Crews.

1929—THE DOVER ROAD by A. A. Milne starring Bette Davis.

1930—MARY ROSE with Henry Hull and Edith Barrett. Also GREAT MOMENTS with Spring Byington and Bette Davis.

1931—O'Neill's Pulitzer Prize Winner STRANGE INTERLUDE starring Judith Anderson and Tom Powers.

1932—John Van Druten's THERE'S ALWAYS JULIET with Violet Heming and Tom Powers.

1933—SURVIVAL with Bert Lytell and Frank Shannon.

1934—THE SHINING HOUR starring Margalo Gilmore and Rollo Peters.

1935—Maxwell Anderson's SATURDAY'S CHILDREN with Ruth Gordon and Ruth Hammond.

1936—THE MIKADO with Forrest Huff.

1937—ACCIDENTAL FAMILY with Julie Haydon, Evelyn Varden and Walter Greaza.

1938—STAGE DOOR by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman with Madge Evans.

1939—Noel Coward's EASY VIRTUE starring Jane Cowl.

1940—Maugham's OUR BETTERS starring Constance Collier and Frances Farmer.

1941—John Van Druten's OLD ACQUAINTANCE starring Jane Cowl.

1942—JANE EYRE co-starring Sylvia Sidney and Luther Adler.

1943—THE TRUTH starring Ruth Chatterton.

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**Week Beginning Monday, August 4th, 1947**

**RICHARD ALDRICH**
by arrangement with John Golden
presents

# GERTRUDE LAWRENCE

In
the American Premiere
of

# "The Lady Maria"

by
W. P. Lipscomb
with

**CARL ESMOND** **BRAMWELL FLETCHER**
**ALICE JOHN** **NORAH HOWARD**

**Staged by Arthur Sircom** **Setting by Eugene Fitsch**
**Associate Director Harold Young**
Costumes by Stewart Chaney

## CAST

Maria Fitzherbert ..... GERTRUDE LAWRENCE
Elein (Miss Pigot) ..... NORAH HOWARD
Richard Brinsley Sheridan ..... BRAMWELL FLETCHER
H. R. H. George, Prince of Wales ..... CARL ESMOND

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Weitje (The Major Domo) ..... GUY SAMPSEL
Reverend Robert Burt ..... MORTON L. STEVENS
Henry Errington, Esq. ..... WILLIAM CRANE
Jack Smythe, Esq. ..... ROBERT WARK
Footman ..... JEFFREY POTTER
Maid ..... HAZEL JONES

The play's action takes place in Lady Maria Fitzherbert's home in Brighton, England.

**Act I**

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**Act II**

Three years later.

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**Act III**

April 1795

There will be a 10 minute intermission between Acts.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Costumes executed by Brooks Costume Company. Wigs by Oscar Bernner. The Cape Playhouse wishes to thank Windswept Antiques, Mr. Paul Lennon, Trade Winds, Gilpin Antiques, Mrs. Charles Minot Hayden, The Hotel Belmont for furniture and incidental properties; the Yarmouth Greenhouses for floral decorations.

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 7)

Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence starred in it on Broadway.

ALICE JOHN (Queen Charlotte) is a native of Llanelly, Wales. Her theatrical career began in 1909 in Edward Sheldon's "Salvation Nell." She subsequently appeared in Ibsen's "Pillars of Society", Hauptmann's "Hannele," and then with the late Laurette Taylor in "Seven Sisters." Following her appearance with Laurette Taylor, Miss John performed in "The Perplexed Husband" with John Drew and then a season with Billie Burke in "Jerry" at New York's Lyceum Theatre. Miss John then appeared with John and Lionel Barrymore and Constance Collier in "Peter Ibbetson" after which she acted for three seasons with Guy Bates Post in "The Masquerader." She worked with Eva Le Gallienne in "The Swan" and trod the boards with Ethel Barrymore for two seasons in "The Constant Wife." After an engagement with Leslie Howard in "Berkeley Square," Miss John toured with Ruth Chatterton in "Pygmalion" and then with Miss Le Gallienne in "Hedda Gabler." Her first visit to The Cape Playhouse was in 1929 as the maid in "Romeo and Juliet," starring Lloyd Nolan, Elliot Cabot and Edith Barrett. Last year she was in the Cape Playhouse production of "The Constant Wife", and in 1935 with Ethel Barrymore in the same production.

NORAH HOWARD (Miss Pigot) is a native of England where she made her stage debut. After many stage appearances in London including a featured role with Miss Lawrence in "Nymph Errant," Miss Howard crossed the sea and toured Canada in Bernard Shaw's "Geneva," and two other plays. Broadway first saw her in "Geneva", and then in "The Wookey" with Edmund

(Continued to Page 13)

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 12)

Gwenn. Her other Broadway performances have been in "The Innocent Voyage" and in "You Touched Me," a Tennessee Williams play starring Edmund Gwenn. Last year she made her first summer stock appearance with "Night Must Fall." She has appeared on such radio shows as "The Theatre Guild of the Air," Norman Corwin and Arthur Hopkins programs, "We, The People" and the Kate Smith Hour.

KENNETH TRESEDER (Mr. Pound) first appeared at The Cape Playhouse with Roland Young, in 1935, in "All Bow Down". He toured in the stage version of Daphne DuMaurier's "Rebecca", with Bramwell Fletcher, and his Broadway appearances include performances in "Mademoiselle," with Grace George, "Party," and "My Dear Children," John Barrymore's last stage play produced by Richard Aldrich. Last season at The Playhouse, he appeared with Miss Lawrence and Gene Raymond in "The Man In Possession."

RONALD TELFER (King George III) a member of the permanent Playhouse company, crosses the channel from last week's performance as the French Dauphin in "Joan of Lorraine."

MORTON L. STEVENS (Reverend Robert Burt) is loved on Broadway and Cape Cod alike. This marks his third appearance this season as a cleric—last week as the Bishop of Beauvais and as a priest in "The Marquise."

GUY SAMPSEL (Weitje, the Major Domo) has appeared at The Cape Playhouse this season in three previous productions. Audiences guffawed at Sampsel's capers as Joel I. Nixon in "Over 21," and as the waiter in "Dream Girl." Last week he appeared as Joan's confessor in "Joan of Lorraine." His Broadway appearances include parts

(Continued to Page 14)

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 13)

in "I Remember Mama," "Uncle Harry", "Cue For Passion", "More The Merrier" and "St. Helena."

WILLIAM CRANE (Henry Errington, Esq.) made his Cape Playhouse debut three weeks ago as Doctor Ford-Waterlow in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street." In previous summer stock engagements, Crane played in "Snafu," "Lady By Name" and "Hasty Heart." He toured overseas in the USO-Camp Shows' production of "Dear Ruth" and has worked for several years as a radio actor in California.

ROBERT WARK (Jack Smythe, Esq.) portrayed Jean De Metz, Farwell and Thomas De Courcelles in "Joan of Lorraine" last week.

HAZEL JONES (The Maid) is English born and first won the attention of theatre critics for her performances with the Everyman Repertory Theatre in London. Since her stage debut, Miss Jones has played with almost every knighted actor in England.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

George III was the ruling British monarch at the time of the American Revolution. Third in the line of German Hanoverian Princes who succeeded to the English throne, George first showed signs of madness when he was 27. In 1811, George went completely mad when his favorite daughter died.

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## FAYE EMERSON RETURNS IN PRE-BWAY COMEDY

Faye Emerson Elliott Roosevelt's wife in private life, is a stage actress who proved her ability at The Cape Playhouse last summer in "Here Today." This season, the Cape Playhouse breaks with tradition and allows a visiting star to appear for a second consecutive year. Richard Aldrich has selected "Profile" by Charles and Michael Robinson, a new play enroute to Broadway, as a starring vehicle for Miss Emerson.

Star of many a Warner Bros. film, including "Hotel Berlin," "The Very Thought of You," "The Mask of Dimitrios," "Danger Signal," and "The Desert Song", Miss Emerson last season appeared on stage for the first time since 1941, when the motion pictures discovered her acting with the Globe Theatre in San Diego.

In "Profile", Faye Emerson will be supported by Edmon Ryan, who scored with Cape Playhouse audiences as the male lead opposite Constance Bennett in "Over 21", and Herbert Berghof and Cora Witherspoon.

## JANE COWL IN "FIRST MRS. FRASER"

Jane Cowl, one of America's most celebrated stage personalities, will appear in St. John Ervine's drawing room comedy, "The First Mrs. Fraser," beginning Monday, August 18th. Miss Cowl is a favorite of Playhouse audiences. In previous seasons, she has starred here in "The Road To Rome", 1938, "Easy Virtue," 1939, and "Old Acquaintance" in 1941.

Miss Cowl "crashed into the theatre" when she was fourteen by putting on grown-up clothes and persuading producer David Belasco to employ her. Her first important play was "Within The Law" and her unforgettable rendition made her an immediate star. "Common Clay" followed and then she wrote a play for herself, "Lilac Time" which was a smash hit. She again collaborated with Jane Murfin to write the ever popular "Smilin' Through" in which she played the lead for a record 1170 performances! As Juliet she played 998 performances and after this came Noel Coward's "Easy Virtue" on Broadway and in London. Her other Broadway starring roles include "Road to Rome", "Twelfth Night", "Rain From Heaven", "First Lady" and "Old Acquaintance."

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